

Re: Fw: Follow up on our previous call Michael DAndrea to: KarenD Johnson Cc: Jennie Saxe, Jon Capacasa, Victoria Binetti

11/25/2011 12:18 PM

From:

Michael DAndrea/R3/USEPA/US

To:

KarenD Johnson/R3/USEPA/US@EPA

Cc:

Jennie Saxe/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Jon Capacasa/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Victoria Binetti/R3/USEPA/US@EPA

Thanks Karen.

Mike

Michael D'Andrea **Executive Assistant** Office of the Regional Administrator EPA Region III 1650 Arch St. Phila, PA 19103 PH: (215) 814-5615 FX: (215) 814-2901

KarenD Johnson

FYI- This is what I sent to Scott this morning, but got a message he is out of t...

11/25/2011 09:26:36 AM

From:

KarenD Johnson/R3/USEPA/US

Michael DAndrea/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Jon Capacasa/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Victoria Binetti/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Jennie

Date:

Saxe/R3/USEPA/US@EPA 11/25/2011 09:26 AM

Subject:

Fw: Follow up on our previous call

FYI- This is what I sent to Scott this morning, but got a message he is out of the office...

Karen D. Johnson, Chief

Ground Water & Enforcement Branch

----- Forwarded by KarenD Johnson/R3/USEPA/US on 11/25/2011 09:25 AM -----

From: To:

KarenD Johnson/R3/USEPA/US "Perry, Scott (DEP)" <scperry@pa.gov> 11/25/2011 09:12 AM

Date:

Subject:

Follow up on our previous call

DIM0033321 DIM0033321 Scott-I think, as you suggested it would be a good idea to get together to talk about some of the technical issues associated with Dimock and probably other areas experiencing some significant effects from the drilling activities. It is clear from the volumes of data that DEP has collected, and Cabot in the Dimock area, that there are ground water effects on the private wells, and that in some cases the treatment systems installed at least by Cabot in Dimock, are not capable of removing all the contaminants. I'm particularly concerned that several of the homes with treatment have the highest levels of Propane, Ethane and Ethene, after treatment. It may be that the samples were during a "shake down period" on the treatment, but in talking to the residents that are using the treatment systems, they really don't have any confidence that they can drink their water. There are also a number of contaminants like ethylene glycol, VOC's (like toluene, and xylene) and radionuclides that have also been detected in the data you sent us, but the systems aren't really designed to remove them.

I'm also concerned that several of the homes (about 4 or 5), along Carter Road don't have any knowledge of whether their wells were tested or whether they have problems. With the number of homes that have had problems, and the fact that most of these homes had children living in them, I can see if we can sample and fill in an any data gaps, if Cabot or your office have never tested these residences...Some of them were rental properties, but none were getting bottled water, and maybe the current tenants just don't know samples were taken, but they should know if they are living there. I'll have to get you the names next week and we can talk about options to verify there have/have not been samples at these locations.

Also, as we discussed, we're looking at some options to see what tools can be run through multiple strings of pipe to confirm whether the squeeze cement jobs were successful in stopping the gas migration. Many could still have noise, temperature or other logs we routinely run for mechanical integrity to verify the cement bond. From the looks of some of the methane values, I think there is still migration going on and the only means of remedying it might be to have Cabot put in some shallow gas recovery wells to take the pressure off the upper formations. Dave Recetenwald is looking into some of the options to run when you have to log through both the 4.5 and 7 inch casing strings.

Another area I'd like to discuss with you and your technical staff is diesel fracing....as I told you there were allegations that at least with Costello1 V and Costello2 V, Cabot used diesel for fracing, and I guess we have to assume, if they did, then they did others with diesel. I've asked for some guidance from HQ on pursuing an information request to Cabot on the matter. Our Office of Enforcement sent information requests to other companies but I don't believe Cabot was included. It may be an avenue to have mechanical integrity confirmed on the wells and address other issues that may not have been addressed to date. They certainly had a large number of wells with problems.

Jennie Saxe also indicated she'd talked to John Heinz about wanting to get together to talk about issues..let me know what works. I still have not gotten any of the information from the residents that came in from other counties, but the Dimock data has been enough to try and understand..... I think we're expecting a summary document with data from that meeting.

I'll talk with you next week when I get the list of homes without samples/water on Carter Rd. Have a good weekend!

Karen D. Johnson, Chief Ground Water & Enforcement Branch

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